



Times Staff Photo  
day, that neared 70  
to enjoy the spring  
d Becky Stevenson

## Revise Budget

David Davis a 5 percent  
ease, which is in line with  
given to all county

an increased work load,  
asked to work extra  
equated to some \$5,000  
pay. The old Court had  
his request but this year's  
nmittee had recommend-  
Davis only a 5 percent

ph Methvin maintained  
ugh he did not favor a  
ease, Davis did deserve  
5 percent.

s motion to give the coor-  
5 percent pay hike, failed

sing the Municipal Court  
rs from two days a week  
s a week and setting her  
5 an hour.

by JP Mary Sue Gilliland  
the hourly wage died for  
second.

sing the juvenile intake  
lary to bring it more in  
e salaries of other county

Court had set a higher  
his position.

the Soil Conservation  
ropriation at \$1,500.

's Court had left this fun-  
to the 1987 Court. SCS  
ly asked for \$4,000.

a radar unit for \$3,770  
the equipment to the  
State Police for use in  
(See Marion On Page 10)

The sales tax is determined by the  
council to be the best and fairest  
method of coming up with funds to  
improve a sewer plant  
improvement project necessary to  
meet federal Environmental Protec-  
tion Agency guidelines. The city is in  
line to receive some funds from the  
federal Clean Water Act which was  
returned to Congress following a  
presidential veto.

EPA has said the city must comply  
with the EPA's secondary effluent  
limits by July of 1988. The city has  
contacted the EPA and assured that  
efforts will be made to comply with  
the limits, but it is doubtful the  
sewer plant improvements will be  
completed by the deadline. The city  
officials said the city needs to show  
good faith to the EPA that it is trying  
to comply with its regulations.

Aldermen agreed that the one cent  
sale tax referendum will allow the  
citizens to decide how the project  
should be financed. If the election  
bid fails, city council will have to

said Charles Bausch, city account-  
tant. The referendum would pledge  
whatever amount necessary to  
amortize bonds for the sewer plant  
project. Remaining funds could be  
used for other city projects outlined  
in the referendum.

There will be some costs up front,  
Bausch said. These costs include  
fees to a bond counselor who will work  
on preparing the wording on the  
ballot.

Aldermen voted in favor of  
employing bond counsel, with the ex-  
ception of Alderman Jim Dye who  
said he feels there should be other  
avenues available to raise the need-  
ed capital.

It was also noted that the council's  
Finance Committee will have to  
determine where the balance of the  
sales tax revenues would be  
budgeted. The city, which lost  
federal Revenue Sharing funds last  
year, has little money budgeted for  
street repair work and no funds  
budgeted for capital improvements

length in the mayor's annual "State  
of the City" address at the end of  
Monday night's city council  
meeting.

"After tabulating our city income  
and expenses for 1987, we are fiscal-  
ly sound with a surplus of revenues  
of approximately \$26,000. Of this  
amount, \$25,000 is pledged to the new  
sports complex, so that leaves us  
with a \$1,000 surplus. That isn't  
much, but times have not been easy  
for any city in the United States."

Among the problems the mayor  
cited were:

The city must comply with the  
waste water specifications set by the  
Environmental Protection Agency.

The city hasn't any money  
available for capital improvements.

And the city has several critical  
street repairs which need to be  
made. The cost of these repairs is  
estimated at \$124,170.

"The city has \$80,000 in the street  
budget for these repairs which  
(See Cent On Page 10)

# Residents of Omaha Briefed About Plan For Arkwood Site

By Ginger Shiras  
Of the Times Staff

Environmental Protection Agency  
officials told Omaha residents Mon-  
day night that Hallie Ormond of Har-  
rison was blocking access to his con-  
taminated Arkwood property in Nor-  
thern Boone County.

They said they were considering  
court action against Ormond.

Ormond could not be reached for a  
response Tuesday morning.

The Arkwood site is one of 900 in  
the nation — 10 in Arkansas —  
designated as Superfund sites be-  
cause of serious contamination  
that has spread to two wells and a  
spring near the Arkwood property.

The contamination at Arkwood is  
from cancer-causing pen-  
tachlorophenol, which was used to  
treat wood at Arkwood a half miles  
south of Omaha from 1962 to 1985.

Mass Merchandisers, which ran  
the operation for the final 12 years  
under a lease from Ormond and his  
son-in-law, C. C. "Bud" Grisham,  
has agreed to pay for a study under  
EPA supervision that would produce  
a plan for cleaning up the site.

EPA officials told the crowd of 50  
at the Omaha School Cafeteria Mon-  
day night that Ormond was denying  
Mass Merchandisers and the EPA  
access to the site.

They said they expected to have  
access within four months and the  
study would then take 21 months.

After the study, a plan for cleaning  
up the site will be developed.

While the EPA is going through its  
long Superfund process, the state  
Pollution Control and Ecology  
Department has filed suit against  
Arkwood, Ormond, Grisham and  
Mass Merchandisers, asking for a  
state court order forcing them to  
clean up the site.

A state lawyer said last summer  
that Mass Merchandisers' agree-  
ment with the EPA only involved the

study, and the state wants a court  
order forcing all responsible parties  
to actually clean up the site.

Residents complained to the EPA  
officials Monday night about the  
minimum two-year wait before the  
clean-up begins.

Omaha Alderman John Parton  
said the city had already lost one in-

dustry. Asked after the meeting, he  
said the big Tyson Foods feed mill  
was planned for Omaha, but changed  
to Bergman after the pollution  
question was raised.

Mass Merchandisers is testing 10  
wells, springs and run-off spots four  
times a year and Bob Barker, the  
(See Omaha On Page 10)

## Harrison May Charge to Monitor Alarm Systems

Businesses with alarm systems  
monitored by the Harrison Police  
Department may have to begin pay-  
ing for that service, according to an  
ordinance placed on its second  
reading at Monday night's city coun-  
cil meeting.

The ordinance calls for a rate  
charge of \$1 per alarm per month for  
the security systems monitored by  
the police department.

The city is looking at all avenues  
of generating funds in a tight finan-  
cial year. Aldermen said the charge  
is not unreasonable.

Not included in the ordinance is a  
recommendation by Police Chief  
Nelson Erdmann that alarm owners  
be fined for each false alarm to  
which officers respond.

The council will take up the or-  
dinance for its third and final  
reading at its March meeting.

The alderman also authorized the  
city to enter an agreement to con-  
tinue the services of the National  
Crime Information Center. The  
police department has a computer  
link with the NCIC which can  
distribute crime information na-  
tionally. Previously the rate for the  
service was about \$100 monthly.  
Under the new rate, the cost will be

about \$200 monthly. A review of the  
rate structure is expected in June,  
and the rate may be reduced, Chief  
Erdmann informed the council.

The council voted to re-establish a  
beautification committee made up  
of alderman and other citizens.  
Alderman Marty Winters and Jim  
Dye were appointed to the commit-  
tee. Other members will be ap-  
pointed from the city at large.

A lease agreement for the Senior  
Activity Center was turned over to  
the Resolution and Finance commit-  
tee for study. The agreement is be-  
tween the city which owns the facility  
and Northwest Arkansas Economic  
Development District.

The council approved the pur-  
chase of a 1978 International four-  
wheel-drive truck complete with  
snow plow to be utilized by the street  
department. The city paid \$4,160 for  
the piece of equipment which will be  
used in various capacities.

Street Superintendent Frank  
Gelinas said it cost the city \$2,200 in  
January to remove snow and ice on  
the city's streets.

The street department has recent-  
ly begun its annual clean up work on  
Crooked and Dry Jordan creeks.  
That work is now about 40 percent  
completed. Gelinas said.

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# Nears to Block Pay Raises

ure it'll fail," Rep. Frank Horton, R-N.Y.,  
aid Monday as a House task force heard  
testimony on the pay raises.

The raises are to go into effect at midnight  
bright if the House does not act to stop them.

President Reagan last month recommended  
he raises for Congress and other federal of-  
ficials and judges, based on even higher  
suggestions from a salary commission.  
Among the raises were a 10 percent

There's no way they could talk me into putting  
my family on the line a second time."

But Curt Anderson, a vice president of the  
conservative Coalitions for America, said  
Congress doesn't deserve a raise.

"Is this not the same Congress that just  
finished vigorously campaigning against this  
big scary thing called the federal deficit?"  
Anderson said. "The same Congress that

and the ruled who pay their salary."

James Ferguson, chairman of the salary  
commission, said top government officials  
were "critically underpaid."

"These top federal officials have not had a  
salary increase other than inadequate cost-of-  
living adjustments in the past 10 years," said  
Ferguson.

Opposing sides are unstrapping their holsters in a control fight, undaunted by the bruising battle of last year.

Monday when Sen. Howard Metzenbaum and Rep. Democrats, introduce legislation to require a seven-gun purchases.

consider the bill the flagship of their legislative press, said Barbara Lautman, spokeswoman for enforcement groups are supporting the effort.

National Rifle Association is fired up to oppose the explosive legislative ideas of its own.

James Baker said his organization wants to allow to buy their sidearms from licensed dealers in which purchases are legal in both states.

a similar provision for long guns last year as part of the 1968 federal gun law. But a coalition of law control lobbyists, in a defeat for the NRA, kept buyer's home state.

to revoke the provision in last year's law that one guns for sale to individuals.

senate GOP leader Bob Dole predicted the president would have a hard time averting an override.

Reagan has acknowledged that he faces a probable override, and many lawmakers said he apparently had

Reagan's veto of the water bill." said "a plea to Republicans to stay with him on the veto of the water bill."

The Kansas senator added, however, "I think it is going to be

has vetoed twice, "I see no sign he's his troops," Sen. D-N.D., Senate Public Works Committee said Monday. "As he's not even trying

"I don't think there's any concerted effort to ride votes," said Hammerschmidt senior Republican Public Works Committee helped write the bill.

"I think there's a preponderance of evidence to override," Hammerschmidt said.

It takes a two-thirds present in each chamber to pass a veto.

An effort to sustain Democratic control involve Minorities, Michel, R-Ill., and Lott, R-Miss., but leadership source is trying to round up support.

"Right now, there's a sustain the veto," speaking on condition "I think the number themselves."

## Omaha

(Continued From Page 1)

company's Arkwood coordinator, told the crowd he would test private wells for anyone who asked. Two residents complained that he had tested their wells but they had not received the results.

Willie Tate, whose wife has had cancer twice in the last four years, said his well had been tested three or four times, but he had never been able to get the results.

Barker said he routinely took the results of the last test to the resident when he made a new test. He said he would give Tate the latest results today.

Rosa Birmingham said her own consultant had found her well highly contaminated before Mass Merchandisers dug her a new one and said her family had a long list of health problems.

Ruth Izraeli of the EPA said the safe drinking water limit was one part of pentachlorophenol per million parts of water. A person drinking water contaminated at that level stands one chance in a million more than normal of contracting cancer, she said.

The water in Cricket Spring near the Arkwood site has four parts of pentachlorophenol per million, she said.

EPA records show that earlier samples found up to 97 parts per million of pentachlorophenol in Cricket Spring, 10.9 parts per million in runoff from the site, 5.6 parts per million in groundwater and 2.8 parts per million in surface water. They also found up to 30,000 parts per million in soil on contaminated areas of the Arkwood property.

Someone mentioned Monday night that fill from the Arkwood site had been used for school ball fields. Most who knew said the fill had come from an uncontaminated area and Izraeli said there were no signs that dirt-moving equipment had been used in the contaminated areas. However, Barker said Mass Merchandisers would test the ball field soil.

Two deep city wells have never shown any pentachlorophenol contamination.

Engineers for Mass Merchandisers say the water under the site moves northwest, while the Omaha wells are northeast of Arkwood. They say several home wells between the plant and the city well are not contaminated. They also say that contamination has been found only in a shallow aquifer, which is separated from the Omaha well by "several thick aquicludes."

Tate also told the meeting Monday night that Grisham had asked him to plow and seed at the Arkwood site. Izraeli said that would disturb the contaminated soil and the EPA would consider legal action to stop it.

The EPA officials had said at the beginning of the meeting that Ormond had already covered and seeded some contaminated areas.

Asked after the meeting, Izraeli said that was done last fall without the EPA's knowledge, but, while the cleanup might cost more, the covering would not impede the cleanup.

Also Monday night, the EPA officials told the local residents that local groups would be eligible next fall for \$50,000 federal grants to hire their own experts on Superfund sites.

They said records of the project would be kept at the Omaha School Library, and the public library and courthouse at Harrison.

# Court Affirms Decision in Odoms, 2 Companies

8th U.S. District Court has affirmed more than 100 judgments in Dogpatch, USA bankruptcy case. The court said the judgments amounted to foreclosures on motels and chalets at the Buffalo River Resort that had been put up as security on loans. Dogpatch, USA filed for bankruptcy in November 1980.

"The sole question on appeal involves the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court," the appeals court said.

"A good argument can be made that DPI and the Odoms consented to the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court," the court said. "An equally strong argument can be made that even if the parties had not specifically consented to the jurisdiction of the

bankruptcy court that this was a core proceeding over which the bankruptcy court had jurisdiction.

"The Buffalo River Resort was the principal asset of the bankruptcy estate and its value was less than the indebtedness of Dogpatch, USA to the S&Ls. The bankruptcy court made it clear at the outset that it would dismiss the petition for reorganization unless the Odoms personally guaranteed the debts secured by the mortgages on the resort. Moreover, it is clear that the plan of reorganization would not have been approved unless the contract between Dogpatch, USA and DPI was included as part of the reorganization."

The court said that under the contract, Dogpatch, USA remained liable to the S&Ls in the event that DPI defaulted.

"In this action brought by the S&Ls on the Dogpatch contract, the S&Ls sought and obtained judgments against DPI, the debtor, and the Odoms jointly and severally," the court said. "Thus, these actions against the Odoms and DPI certainly would have a real and tangible effect on the estate of the debtor. If DPI can't pay, the debtor will be responsible for the liens, the money will come out of the debtor's estate, and unsecured creditors will get nothing."

Mrs. Roy's ruling said three institutions — First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Stuttgart, Wynne Federal Savings and Loan Association, and Batesville Federal Savings and Loan Association later acquired by FirstSouth FA — were entitled to the proceeds from sales of motels and chalets at the resort.

The Stuttgart S&L was granted a judgment of \$532,310 for its interest in 14 chalets at the resort. The Wynne institution was granted a \$374,872 judgment for its interest obtained through a loan for a 22-unit motel. The Batesville institution was granted a \$572,424 judgment for loans secured by interests in the 22-unit motel and another 12-unit motel.

FirstSouth, which acquired the Batesville S&L, was closed in December by federal regulators. Riverside Federal Savings and Loan Association assumed FirstSouth's assets.

P. Odom and Willastein Odom.

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(Continued From Page 1)

them your ideas on how we can solve our problems."

"Locally, there are a number of actions which we can take to make the best use of our budget," The mayor said.

"I propose a city government hiring freeze. Anyone who works for the city will still be employed, but as people retire or quit, they will not be replaced unless their jobs are considered vital to the operation of the city."

"We will continue to explore ways in which we can consolidate the services performed by individual city departments. We will also continue to look at ways in which some city and county services can be combined to save us all some money," the mayor said.

"I would very much like to see the Sports Complex completed this year. But we still need to go out and find the grants and raise the money to get this project finished in 1987."

The mayor called for support for the proposed one cent city sales tax to meet the EPA requirements and other city needs. He said the tax would be a fair one.

There are citizens who want to see our problems solved, the mayor said, and the people of Harrison are the solution to the city's problems.

"And that is why it is my pleasure tonight to tell you that the future of Harrison is very bright, and that the state of the city is excellent because we have the kind of people here who make it excellent," the mayor concluded.

## Marion

Marion County. The court left the decision to the JPs.

It was noted that the equipment to the would not be maintenance.

• Appropriating \$100,000 for Mountain Alcoholism treatment center.

Finance Committee Don Regnier noted member panel was the issue, 2-2, and the decision to the Finance Committee.

• Giving the local \$500 in funding. The decreased the airport the finance committee recommended reinstating.

Finance committee recommendations not accepted by funding to the Oakl Center as appropriate year's Court.

Although the 1980 this funding, the new the money to \$3,100.

Also, last year granted County Assessor extra help in his extra hours to make employee into full-time to hire a part-time.

The committee had that the part-time position be upped to only and that the appropriation cut completely out.

In the meantime had cut some \$2,900 parts of his budget instead for the extra. Patton noted that the tion had been dropped budget.

The Court approved revised budget, notwithstanding appropriations in this differ much from the budget approved by committee.

After passage of the JP Kenneth Jefferson finance committee recommended for its work.